

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/050,112

12, and a position corresponding to a reference hole (here, 10b) provided in the vicinity of a central portion of the cartridge case 12.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:

a single reel including a circular lower flange in which an engaging portion for engaging a rotary shaft of a recording/reproducing apparatus is centered, and a circular upper flange which is arranged so as to be opposed to the lower flange and has an outer diameter larger than the outer diameter of the lower flange;

a magnetic tape which is wound between said upper flange and said lower flange; and

a cartridge case within which said single reel is rotatably accommodated and which includes a lower case into which said rotary shaft is inserted and which has a first opening at a position corresponding to the engaging portion of said lower flange, and an upper case which has a circular second opening having an inner diameter larger than the outer diameter of said lower flange but smaller than the outer diameter of said upper flange;

wherein said upper flange closes the circular second opening of said upper case to form a central portion on an upper side of said cartridge case.

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6. (Amended) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 5, wherein each of said at least two reel engaging units includes an urging unit for urging said upper flange toward said upper case.

7. (Amended) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 5, wherein engagement of said upper flange of said single reel by each of said at least two reel engaging units is released when the magnetic tape cartridge is loaded into said recording/reproducing apparatus.

Please add the following new claims:

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14. (New) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 8, wherein said drawing-out member is a leader block which fits in said magnetic tape drawing-out port and forms a part of said side wall when the leader block is in a state of disuse.

15. (New) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 11, wherein said drawing-out member is a leader block which fits in said magnetic tape drawing-out port and forms a part of said side wall when the leader block is in a state of disuse.

16. (New) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:

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a single reel including a circular lower flange in which an engaging portion for engaging a rotary shaft of a recording/reproducing apparatus is centered, and a circular upper flange which is arranged so as to be opposed to the lower flange and has an outer diameter larger than the outer diameter of the lower flange;

a magnetic tape which is wound between said upper flange and said lower flange; and
a cartridge case within which said single reel is rotatably accommodated and which includes a separate lower case into which said rotary shaft is inserted and which has a first opening at a position corresponding to the engaging portion of said lower flange, and a separate upper case which has a circular second opening having an inner diameter larger than the outer diameter of said lower flange but smaller than the outer diameter of said upper flange;

wherein said upper flange closes the circular second opening of said upper case to form a central portion on an upper side of said cartridge case.

17. (New) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 16,
wherein said upper case comprises a circular cutout portion which is provided on an upper side of said upper case along said circular second opening and has an inner diameter larger than the outer diameter of said upper flange, and

wherein said upper flange comprises an annular stepped portion which is provided circumferentially on a lower side of said upper flange and fits in the circular cutout portion of said upper case from an upper side, and

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wherein said circular cutout portion of said upper case extends substantially perpendicular to a side surface of said cartridge.

18. (New) The magnetic tape cartridge according to claim 16, wherein a magnetic tape drawing-out port, which becomes a passage for drawing out said magnetic tape from said cartridge case and rewinding said magnetic tape into said cartridge case, is provided on a side surface of said cartridge case at a position apart from a corner of said cartridge case, and

wherein a drawing-out member is provided at one end of said magnetic tape and said magnetic tape is drawn out of said magnetic tape drawing-out port by said drawing-out member.

19. (New) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising a generally rectangular cartridge case in which a single reel wound with a magnetic tape is rotatably housed,

wherein a magnetic tape drawing-out port, which becomes a passage for drawing out said magnetic tape from said cartridge case and rewinding said magnetic tape into said cartridge case, is provided on a side surface of said cartridge case at a position apart from a corner of said cartridge case, and

wherein a drawing-out member is provided at one end of said magnetic tape and said magnetic tape is drawn out of said magnetic tape drawing-out port by said drawing-out member.